Depot Town Rag

Volume 18, Number 2 *"All the news in one block in one month."*

A Publication of the DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

100% FREE
Rag Content
February 1995

- Cady's gets even newer
- ***Tim Cook's photos***
- New business
- FACTS ON JONESY
- **As seen on TV: Marilyn!**

and other strictly local stuff. . . .

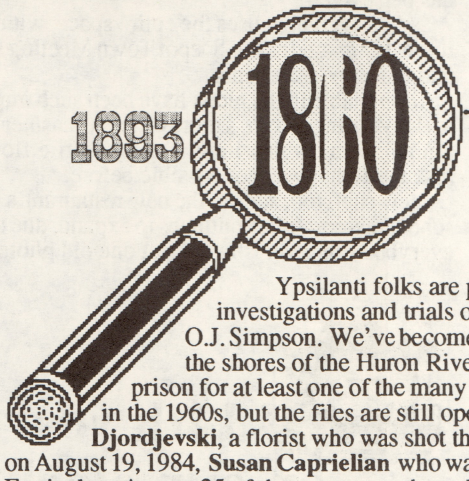
Angle parking is coming back to the block

Watch for a new/old parking pattern which will double the number of available number of spaces on the north side of Cross Street. Activists of the Depot Town Downtown Development Association (DDA) have studied the ancient concept and will soon implement the plan. Last summer several autos parked at an angle early on a Saturday morning just to prove it could still be done.

City Planner, Alice R. Burg, notes three distinct advantages to the new plan: more spaces than with parallel parking for the same length of curb space, easier driver/passengera entry and exit, and entering and leaving the parking space is far easier than with parallel parking. Disadvantages include higher incidents of accidents, narrower street space, and possible interference with through-traffic movement.

Locals have long favored the move and MDOT and County officials agreed the innovation fell under the jurisdiction of the local muncipality.

Observers note there are no signs indicating 'parallel parking' now, so parkers can plan to see a new pattern introduced overnight!



Murder mysteries on the block

Ypsilanti folks are probably not shocked at the popularity of the investigations and trials of the Menendez brothers, Jeffrey Dahmer, nor O.J. Simpson. We've become too accustomed to such violence right here along the shores of the Huron River over the years. John Norman Collins went to prison for at least one of the many 'Michigan Murders' that took place in Ypsilanti in the 1960s, but the files are still open on the cases of the murder of **Branko Djordjevski**, a florist who was shot through the front window of his River street home on August 19, 1984, **Susan Caprielian** who was last seen at the Depot Town jazz tent at Heritage Festival on August 25 of that same month, and realtor **Clark Brown** who was shot to death in his office on Michigan Avenue on ???.

James Thomas Mann's newest digging in local records has turned up four more notorious murders which centered upon Depot Town. **Lucy Washburn's** was Our Town's first recorded murder in 1860 when she was killed by her husband in their house on River street where the S.O.S. Crisis Center's octogon house now stands. **Jay Pulver** was killed at the Ypsilanti woolen mill which stood across from Frog Island in 1893. **Will Cox** was held responsible for the suicide/death event which also took **May Camp's** life in 1905. **Daniel Corey** was murdered at the Peninsular Paper Company's mill on Huron River Drive in 1907.

Key activities in these situations took place in Depot Town restaurants, saloons, stores, hotels and rooming houses and will be featured in *The Rag* beginning this month for winter readings.

Historic Morse Telegraph demonstration featured

Railroad Days at the Freighthouse

[Source: Gary Urick, manager, Ypsilanti's Farmers' Market]

On February 2 a piece of history will unfold at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse. Witness the annual event of Railroad Days. With modern technology present in today's society, who would think that Morse Telegraphy could possibly still be around? Invented by Samuel F.B. Morse, telegraphy was used in conjunction with the operation of our great railroads and was present to announce the election results of many of our presidents.

This year we celebrate the 151st anniversary of the first inter-city telegraph message, "What had God wrought?" To celebrate this historic event, the Toledo Chapter of the Morse Telegraph Club will be present for a display and demonstration of Morse telegraphy. Many antique telegraph sounders, keys, relays and other instruments will be exhibited and operational.

The club members consist of railroader, Western Union, amateur radio and other telegraphers. Ages in the club range from 18- to 104-years-old.

Toledo Chapter president, Ralph Caryl, from Davison, Michigan, and the secretary/treasurer, Bill Garrett, from Flint, Michigan, will be available to answer questions. Both worked for the Grand Trunk Railroad and are now retired. Al Skornicka, a Morse Telegraph member from Ypsilanti and member of the Depot Town Antique Engine Club, invited the Club members to participate in this historic event.

Organizer Al Skornicka says, "When I was growing up in the small town of Dryden, Michigan, I spent much time visiting our railroad depot. The Grand Trunk Railroad ran through our town. I remember the smell of steam and coal from the trains that passed through. I listened for many hours to the American Morse Telegraph, operated by the depot clerk and to the stories he would tell. From that experience - and from the Boy Scouts - I learned the Morse code and later received my amateur radio lecense. Several years have passed, but my memories of that telegraph sounder remain clear."

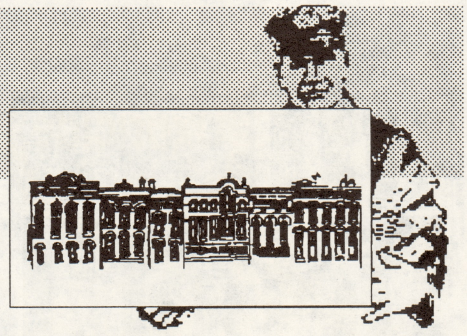
Jonesy is 90 years old February17

Clip the coupon below and follow the direction overleaf - to wish Depot Town's most venerated citizen "many happy returns." Let the entire block celebrate his very special day all month.

Jonesy's 90!

Dateline: Depot Town

A Neighborhood Forgotten by Time (and Life and Newsweek)



Novice antiquers start out here

Ypsilanti Community Adult Education's new class for beginning antiquers will be led by Judy and Roger Julie in their shop, Renewed Interest Antiques, very Tuesday night for eight weeks from 7 to 9 p.m. It's a totally new way to introduce 'interesteds' and take them to the next step in collecting. Anyone still in the "We-threw-out-one-just-like-that-years-ago Stage", can easily be taken to the next level by these skillful local experts.

Gifted child arrives

Betsy and Steve Gross announce the birth of Molly Jeanine Gross on January 2, 1995. With a mommy in the newspaper business and a daddy who's an auctioneer, she enters the district with plenty of inate talent.

Jonesy is older than the Caboose this month!

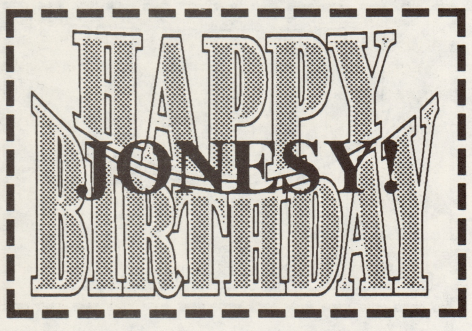
The entire neighborhood marks Jonesy's ninetieth birthday on February 17!A regular feature on this block for years and years, Harold Jones still maintains his residence at the end of Photo Street and visits many neighborhood businesses every day.

Mr. Jones is still ready to tell anyone who will listen about his early years along the Mississippi River in Indiana, his experiences at riding the rails during The Great Depression, and about the time his Daddy whipped him for going into town and getting a tattoo.

Best thing about a tattoo is, when you're nearly a hundred years old and covered with freckles and hair, it's terribly difficult to make it out without a guide. Don't worry, Jonesy is very capable of guiding you. And he'll regale you with delightful stories in the process.

Depot Towners are committed to making February 1995 "Jonesy Month," with daily celebrations of his commitment and dedication to his community. Up and down the district, his friends and neighbors say they hope to be as loved and respected if and when they ever reach such a dignified position in life.

Clip the coupon below and use it as your invitation and birthday card when you invite Jonesy to breakfast, lunch, dinner, or a drink this month. He's the best preserved piece of history on this old block....



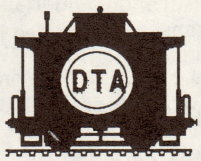
Cady's Grill gets even newer

There's a whole new system installed at Bill and Sandee French's new restaurant in Depot Town. When they re-opened the old Old Town Restaurant, the name (and the interior, and the menu) was changed to the Old Town *Café*. A few months later they expanded into Cady's Grill in the western dining room using the same kitchen facilities. Now all that's changed and Cady's has persevered.

Cady's Grill now uses the entire space, with counter service eliminated and the eastern dining room designated as the 'Depot Town Meeting Room' for neighborhood meetings, private parties, and other special events.

Most notable in the redux have been such improvments as a new/old-looking stained glass door to the Meeting Room, a more efficient cashier's space, and a widened arch between the two main dining rooms which improves the traffic flow and provides and great view across the entire restaurant that was not possible before.

A new chef, too, adds to the new restaurant's efficency and ambiance, and the collection of high school memorabilia continues to expand, due to the hometown loyalty of the clientele. Just about everybody in town is in at least one old photo on Cady's walls.



14th year on our block

Everybody said the ancient wooden structure/vehicle was too old to move by rail, but it arrived in Depot Town on Valentine's Day 1980 - by unknown forces which remain secret to this day. Perhaps the story can be told when Conrail/Amtrak goes out of business.

DTA Caboose data:

• **CA-BOOSE** (ke-boos'), n. MD. *kabuys, kambuis,* earlier *kaban huis*, cabin house, ship's gallery; see CABIN, CABARET),
1. a ship's galley or kitchen.
2. the trainmen's car on a freight train, usually at the rear.

• Formerly Grand Trunk Western Railways Caboose Number 77134, designated number "Thirty-Nine" when owned by Ford Motor Company executive in Melvindale MCRR yard.

• Built in 1910. Length 40', width 8', height 13', weight 22 tons.

• Cost of caboose - $2500 plus moving and installation costs - $2500. All funds solicited in campaign by DTA in 1980.

Hon's Flowers
46 East Cross
482-2124

Engine Clubbers celebrate

The annual Christmas Party of the Depot Town Antique Engine Club saw 55 members turn out for an evening of live music, a silent auction, door prizes, and the usual great food.

Although the January meeting date was changed, they will return to their fourth Thursday evening in the Freighthouse pattern again this month.

Officers include president Bill Kasper, v.p. Gerry Barker, secretary Bob Kruse, and treasurer Paul Brown. Board members include Danny Brown, Phyllis Kasper, and Ivan Zeeb.

Anyone interested in the preservation of historic gas and steam engines is invited to join this active and creative group.

New Third Ward Voters Make Your Vote Count on Monday, February 20

Re-Elect

PAM CUTHBERT

• DEMOCRAT •

For the Long Term to City Council from the New Third Ward

Polls are open from 7 a.m. through 8 p.m.

A paid poltical advertisement

Around the world - - and back to Depot Town

Tim Cook's photos featured at the Daily Grind this month

[Somebody's always sticking their creative product up on the walls down ion this district, and here's Tim's story about how his excellent works came to be featured here this month:]

For me, first there was traveling. Crossing the Mexican border after four days of hitch-hiking from Ypsilanti with a few twenty dollar bills in my pocket was the ultimate exhilaration.

Later, with more time, money and organization, I mounted an enormous circular journey form the Ypsilanti bus station south to Cochabamba, Bolivia, then north to Bahia, Brazil, via the jungle. I can clearly see a vision of myself from the depths of a Michigan February riding atop sacks of cacao beans on the deck of a small cargo boat headed north on the Rio Momoré, causally nibbling a piece of Peruvian cactus and wondering at the wild boars along the muddy shore.

On the Pacific side of Guatemala, while observing crabs scurry along the beach and fidgeting nervously over the tortured state of myself and the planet , I had a flash of insight. The man who owned the cane and palm hut that I was sleeping and eating in called out to his wife from the hammock he was gently swaying in, "Querida, can you bring me something to drink?" His wife hacked off the top of a coconut, poured a clear liquid into it, inserted a straw, walked over and placed it into his outstretched hand (his eyes were closed). She gave him a gentle kick on the bulging lower part of the hammock.

I understood. First, life can be enjoyed, then find things in life that you enjoy and do them.

Along the way I noticed that strange and beautiful things were happening. An ancient Cuna Indian woman with a huge ring in her nose gave me a cup of weak coffee. I took her picture with my trusted, all-purpose Minolta.

I finally made it to South America in a dugout log with a twenty h.p. motor on it. A Frenchman and I chugged up to the pier in Turbo, Columbia, and were astounded to see willowy women in elegant but abbreviated evening gowns strolling down the breakwater with parasols open at 10 o'clock in the morning. They did not want their picture taken but I found that children almost always want their picture taken and that most other working people don't mind having their picture taken.

I rode into Bolivia in the back of a half-ton truck with the constellations strangely out of place. Suddenly I realized I was looking at the Southern Cross and I savored my view of it as we descended in the early morning dark to the dim lights of an Andean village. At dawn I realized that a woman in full tribal dress and a bowler hat had spent the night sitting on my backpack pummeling my beloved Minolta at every bump in the packed dirt road with her gargantuan buttocks.

A few years later, after having been informed by a curt and rather condescending letter from the dean of my law school ("students must maintain, at an absolute minimum, a 2.00 G.P.A. or lose their ... and since you have utterly failed to achieve our most basic standard ..."), I let out again to follow the track of over Alexander, up the Indus Valley in Pakistan, over to the heights of the Kulu Valley in Northern India. Then, from Hong Kong, I made another huge circle back west through southern China, down the Yangste to Shanghai and again by boat down to Hong Kong. From there to the Philippines, Taiwan, Japan and back to Ypsilanti.

Strange sights came into view. Occasionally I opened the aperture of my Nikkon at the propitious time and an image was recorded on FujiChrome. The rice terraces in the Philippines came into view, mankind's oldest on-going engineering project. The subtle Zen gardens in Kyoto, Japan, and a man receiving a haircut in a Chinese City were seen and recorded.

Stop by the Daily Grind coffee shop sometime in February, sip a *café au lait* and peruse twenty prints of a certain place at a certain time in the life of our planet. - Tim Cook

New business for the block

Pedestrian walkway:

Designs and ideas for a covered walkway through the pedestrian strip from Cross Street to the Market Plaza are being sought by DDA's Judi Monaghan. Old or new, high or low tech, what can we come up with that would accent that popular thoroughfare? Skech it or talk it; Judi's awaits your thoughts.

St. Patrick's Parade:

The Gaelic League of Ypsilanti is planning its second annual procession into this district at 2 p.m. on March 17. It continues to be the only Real St. Patrick's Parade in Michigan on that day!

60,000 new customers in 45 days!

Fully one third of the 180,000 folks who passed through the Thanksgiving-to-New Years Festival of Lights in Riverside Park were from outside of Washtenaw County, reports Carolyn McKeever. She sends thanks to the many Depot Towners who turned out to be greeters and help with the eleborate set-up.

Frog Island in the works

Committees are already working with The Ark and the City of Ypsilanti to put next June's musical event in place. Performing artists are auditioning this month. And more volunteers are always welcome. DTA will write a letter of support for a grant being sought, as well.

Work stopped

Early winter weather was so balmy that painting began on the westworks of the Thompson Block - and received the attention of the City Building Department in the form of a 'Stop Work Order.' Seems all that publicity with color photos of painters on page one of the *Press/News* drew the heat of the authorities to examine the process even more carefully.

Nothing new at the Depot

... except a little more graffiti on the walls. The district's most watched pots aren't even simmering at this point. Talks continue. Maybe they'll be progress next year.

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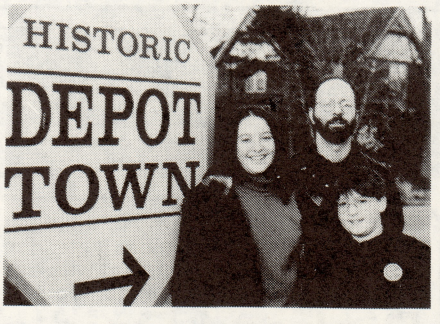
Vote LaRue Feb 20



A real Democrat for Ward 3
A paid poltical advertisement

Depot Town Association, Inc.

19 January 1995:
Minutes of December approved as published.

Rag Report: New series - murders in Depot Town area. Happy 90th, Jonesy!

Market Advisory Board: It was reported that the number of vendors has increased as well as the number of vendor applications. The market is open Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Depot Town Downtown Development Authority: Judi Monaghan needs your ideas for a way to tie the walk-thru to the Plaza. Angle parking for the north side of Cross Street in Depot Town is in the near future. This will increase the number of parking spacaes and add charm.

Events: New Year's Jubilee committee reports approximately 3000 llpeople attended the event which is an increase over last year's count. Bookings for performers has already begun for this year. As reported in all local papers, Gus Macker is coming. Fewtival of Lights had an attendance of approximately 100,000 people, 66% from Washtenaw County. Donations to the Festival of Lights totalled $24,800. St. Patrick's Day Parade is scheduled for 2 P.M. on Friday, Marach 17. Plans for Frog Island Jazz Festival are under way.

Merchants: Victorian Holidays went well. Everyone enjoyed the Santa House and the frequent visits of Santa. Thanks to Sandy Hoag and her crew for teh work done at the Santa House, thanks to all the Santas, and thank you to the crew who put up (and removed) Depot Town's greenery and bows!

OLD BUSINESS:

(New) checking account now open. Depot Town also has a new address. You can mail to Depot Town at P.O. Box 970235, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197-0804.

Bylaws: Copies of the present bylaws were distributed at the DTA meeting. February's meeting will include in its agenda a discussin of the present bylaws. If you didn't receive a copy, check with Judy Julie at Renewed Interest Antiques or Gwen Blackmer at Depot Town Travel.

Snow Removal: Terry ;McDonald reports that the walk-thru is the City's responsibility when it comes to removal of snow. The City Manager is making up a map to establish the areas which are the City's responsibility and which areas are business owners' responsibility.

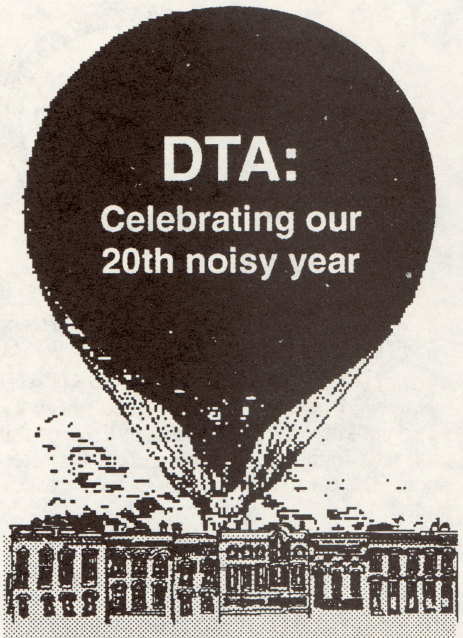
NEW BUSINESS:

Antique class: Renewed Interest Antiques reports that, starting January, they will be holdinga class for beginners on various aspects of antiques and collecting. Judy and Roger were contacted by Ypsi Community Adult Education to offer the enrichment program.

Next meeting: 16 February 1995 at 7:30 P.M. at Renewed Interest Antiques.

Best Yet Award: To Sandy Hoag and her crew reagarding preparatins and hard work getting the Victorian Holiday's ready. Special mention: Congratulations to Steve and Betsy Gross on the birth of their daughter, Molly, on January 2.

Golden Goose: To the vandals who toppled Sidetrack's Christmas tree and those who dumped the planters yet again.



THE DEPOT TOWN RAG
A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc. a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate. -Tom Dodd, editor
The Depot Town Association, Inc.
Tom Steele, president
c/o The Old Caboose
400 Market Place
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

Eastern Michigan University
Depot Town Center
Lifespan Learning Programs
January/Februray, 1995

• Workshops • Seminars
• Lectures • Performances
Chronologically listed by topic:

February
- Poisonous Plants in Your LIfe
- The New South Africa; Land of Opportunities
- Harp/percussion/vocal duo Harpbeat
- The Art of Ireland
- The Evolution of Desire: How Men & Women Choose Mates
- The American Circus: Part of Our Heritage
- Storyteller LaRon Williams
- The Literature of Ireland
- American Humor Today: Endangered or Enlightened?
- Half of the Well-known Duo Gemini - Sandor Slomovitz
- Communication Workshop for Couples

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❑ $10 Associate Member (Interested in and supportive)
❑ $100 Life Member (A great deal if you had joined in 1976!)
❑ Please place my name on the monthly mailing list of *The Depot Town Rag*
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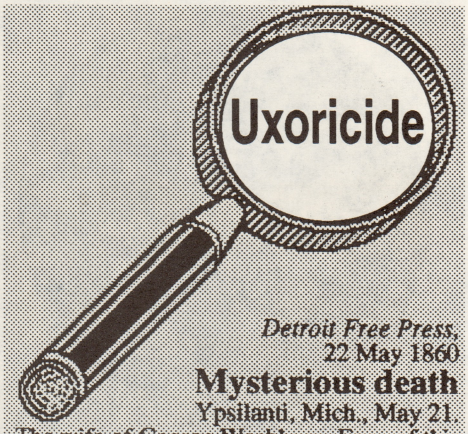
✂ Clip and send check to "Depot Town Association"
c/o The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198



Detroit Free Press, 22 May 1860

Mysterious death

Ypsilanti, Mich., May 21.

The wife of George Washburn, Esq., of this city, was found dead in his cellar this afternoon. The cause of her death is not yet ascertained.

Ann Arbor Journal, 30 May 1860

Crime and casuality in Ypsilanti

Probable murder of a woman - her husband suspected

The wife of Geo. W. Washburne, of Ypsilanti, was found dead in the cellar of her dwelling house, between 4 and 5 o'clock on Monday afternoon. She was discovered by her little daughter on her return from school. She lay at the foot of an inside flight of cellar stairs, her nose bloody, marks of violence on her neck and her hair in disorder. Her body was yet warm. The appearance of the rooms indicated that a struggle had taken place. Suspicion rests upon her husband. They have not lived together for some months past, but recently he has attempted to stay at her house, and was seen to leave the house about 4 o'clock in the afternoon on Monday. An inquest on the body of the unfortunate woman is being held by J.R. Cook, Esq., and Washburn has been committed to the lock-up to await the result.

Detroit Free Press, 23 May 1860

Supposed murder at Ypsilanti

Yesterday, about 5 o'clock, P.M. Lucy Washburn, wife of G.W. Washburn, of this city, was found at the foot of the cellar stairs in her dwelling, dead...

... In March last there was a separation between him and his wife, and although they have not lived together, he has called occasionally at the house, the title of which was in his wife, and has at different times proposed an adjustment of their difficulties, which she has refused, having commenced an action for a divorce. He was at the house twice yesterday — once in the forenoon, and once in the afternoon, leaving the house in the afternoon, as he thinks, about 2 o'clock, though others put it at a later hour.

Washburn is supposed to have been somewhat inebriated yesterday, and when found, after the discovery of his wife's death, he was in his room at the hotel where he boarded... He was before the inquest this afternoon, but his statements were generally immaterial.

The generally accepted theory is, that Mrs. Washburn was murdered either by her husband or some one else; that she was strangled in the bed to which allusion has been made, and her body placed where it was found to make it appear that she came to her death by a fall down the steps.

A jury was impaneled by Justice Cook, by direction of whom a post mortem examination was made this morning by Drs. Ashley and Port. They have not yet made their report, having reserved the stomach for analyzation. It is understood, however, that they did not discover any evidences of violence that would have produced death, nor any congestion or other derangement of the vital functions from which death might be supposed to have resulted. The inquest is now in progress.

Ann Arbor Journal, 20 June 1860

The Circuit Court

The Circuit Court for the county of Washtenaw is now in session. The trial of Geo. Washburn of Ypsilanti, for the alleged murder of his wife, was commenced yesterday. A large number of witnesses are in attendance from Ypsilanti, and about thirty witnesses have been already sworn and examined on the part of the people.

Ann Arbor Journal, 27 June 1860

The Circuit Court

In our last issue we stated that George W. Washburn of Ypsilanti was on trial for the alleged murder of his wife. After being out all night, the jury brought him in guilty of manslaughter and recommended him to the mercy of the court. The circumstantial evidence of the homicide was very clear and conclusive. The only really questionable point in the case seemed to be, was it pre-meditated.

From *History of Washtenaw County*, Chas. E. Chapman & Co., Chicago 1881

Murder of Mrs. Lucy Washburn

On Monday evening, May 22, 1860, Mrs. Lucy Washburn, wife of G.W. Washburn of Ypsilanti, was found at the foot of the cellar stairs in her dwelling, dead. Upon discovery of the body an examination was made. The dress and hair of the deceased were somewhat disarranged; one of her shoes was found in a bedroom, the other she had on her foot; there were appearances of blood about the nose and mouth, and marks as of the grasp of a hand on the throat and neck, and some other immaterial bruises. In the bed-room spoken of there were two beds. One of them was disarranged, and on the under side of the tick of the feather bed were found spots of apparently fresh blood, and there were appearances about the room that indicated that a struggle had taken place.

Mr. Washburn, the husband of the dead woman, was a butcher by trade, and somewhat addicted to the use of liquor. He had not been living with his wife for some time, but had been down to see her frequently, and at the time of her death had commenced an action for divorce.

When found he was in his room at the hotel, asleep, or in bed. A jury was impaneled by Justice Cook, of that city, by direction of whom a post-mortem examination was made by Drs. Ashley and Post. The jury rendered a verdict of "death by violence from some person or persons to them unknown."

Mr. Washburn was afterward arrested, tried, found guilty, and recommended to the mercy of the court by the jury.

The victim of uxoricide

Feb. 28, 1860, Mrs. Lucy Washburn filed a bill of divorce against her husband, charging him with personal violence, drunkeness and adultery. While the suit was still pending, Washburn attempted to persuade the woman to quash the bill; but she, persisting in her determination. June 12, 1860, informations were filed against Geo. W. Washburn, charging him with the murder of his wife, in May. The murder was committed in a house on the southeast corner of North and River streets [where the octogon house, SOS Crisis Center, sits today], latterly occupied by Hiram Day.

The prisoner was brought before Justice Gardner, of Ann Arbor, to be examined; but this examination was waived, and he was held to appear before the judge of circuit. The session of this court opened the following week, before Judge Edwin Lawrence. Chauncey Joslin and the prosecuting attorney represented the People, and Olney Hawkins the prisoner.

The trial lasted two days. His two children, boys of six and eight years of age, were the witnesses for the prosecution, and on their testimony, chiefly, the unfortunate uxoricide was convicted. The jury rendered a verdict of "guilty of manslaughter" June 21, 1860, and Judge Lawrence sentenced him to a 12 years' term in the State's prison.

The bill of exceptions was taken to the Supreme Court July 30. Jan. 31, 1861, this bill was allowed by the circuit judge. In April, 1862, the case was heard in the Supreme Court, and the judgment of the lower court affirmed. The counsel above mentioned appeared for and against the uxoricide in the higher court.

This was a most diabolical murder; Washburn excelled the Moor of Venice in his brutality, as after smothering his wife with the pillow he drew her forth to the head of the cellar stairway, and cast the lifeless body down, so that it would appear her death was due to accident.

The guilty wretch served a term of years, enjoying the hospitality of the State immensely, and actually returned to the scene of his crime unabashed; made a short stay among a people who loathed him, and leaving, went into the world who knew him not. Though other murderers have been arrested here, he was the only one who committed such a heinous deed within this township. He was the first to stain a record otherwise fair, with the story of a wife-killer, and, therefore, deserved the light punishment inflicted by justice, together with the terrible one which the unquiet conscience entails.

It is a subject for inquiry how some women are so wofully ignorant as to link their fortunes with such barbarous characters. That they will continue to make such mistakes is not contradicted. Monsters, such as Washburn was, will appear upon the stage of life from time to time, so that in the near future some provision must be made to remove the unoffending and defenseless women from the dangerous neighborhood of that terrible scourge — an uneducated or drunken husband.

[**Next:** Watchman killed at woolen mill in 1893]

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A Depot Town SAMPLER

Marilyn discovered again

Folks looking for Elvis won't be surprised to find Marilyn Monroe in the process. And the place to look, obviously, is Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town. Locals stop in to Linda Lister's Depot Doo Hair and Tanning Salon with great regularity to see how many more 'Marilyns' have joined her unique collection, but now the parade of fans is greatly expanded. You just can't keep a thing like that a secret.

These pages spilled the beans several months ago with a feature on Linda's Marilyn Mania. Then she received a call from *The Ann Arbor News/Ypsilanti Press* and the reporter and photographer put together a thorough investigation in their dailies' feature pages. They'd picked up the tip from *The Rag*, and that's the way things should be.

Not stopping there, another reader of that paper called Linda to see if she wanted her Fifteen Minutes of Fame on Detroit's Channel 2. She did - and the camera team arrived the next day. Linda spent all night putting up even more Marilyn-obilia and the crew filmed from 11 a.m. until just after lunch. By the time the four o'clock news rolled on, Lister's secret was out.

Three more times that night, and at least one more newscast on the following day, the local treasure trove was exposed to the cathode ray tube as far as the local Fox channel can be seen.

"It's all because they read it in *The Rag*," effused Linda.

There was a day when you had to be 'discovered' in Schrafft's Drug Store soda fountain. Now, with a new scope of communication, you can get famous just waiting around in Depot Town. Such a success only leads our editor to encourage everybody on the block to keep telling their stories. Whatever it is that we do down here, it seems the rest of the world thinks it's pretty neat and they want to see it.

The Rag's 1500 monthly copies are read by fifteen people, each, what with bulletin board postings, E-mail, cheap Xerography, and all the kids in the editor's classes at school who have to read that stuff to pass. Why, that's twenty-two thousand, five hundred readers a month.

The news is bound to get out: People down on this block are having a fun time and it's open for others to come in and enjoy it just as if they were born and raised here. If they do something goofy, it's contagious. The rest of the world wants to play this game, too!

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